

HESTER A. ADAMS.

JANUARY 26, 1897.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

Mr. WOOD, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 7903.]

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7903) granting a pension to Hester A. Adams, submit the following report:

The claimant, Hester A. Adams, is the widow of William H. Adams, a private of Company D, Thirtieth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry. She was married January 3, 1869. The soldier served from March 1, 1862, to July 17, 1865, when he was honorably discharged. He was pensioned at \$4 per month from July 18, 1865, for chronic diarrhea, proven to be of service origin, and which disease affected him to the date of his death, February 2, 1882. The immediate cause of his death was complete pneumonia of the right lung, but the condition of pensioner's bowels during his last sickness, as disclosed by the physician, as also his condition since his discharge, impresses the committee with the belief that this army disease had much to do with his death.

An application for pension under the general law of 1862 has been rejected on the ground that soldier died of disease contracted since his discharge, but claimant is now drawing a pension of \$8 under act of June 27, 1890.

Claimant is very poor; the total amount of her property does not exceed \$150. She has a feeble-minded, helpless son over 16 years of age to support. Her health is poor, and her present pension is utterly insufficient for her support unless aided by charity. She is shown to be worthy, and her claim is supported by the officers and members of the Grand Army post where she lives.

The committee recommend that the bill be amended by striking out of line 8 the word "eighteen" and inserting in lieu the word "twelve," and also by amending the title so as to read:

"A bill increasing the pension of Hester A. Adams."